

General Instructions for all Applications

* Electronic Submission Required *

Pre-proposals should be thoughtfully prepared and not exceed two single-spaced pages (including budget), 3/4 inch margins, and an easy to read, Arial or equivalent 11 point font. Limit references to one page (pg. 3).

Failure to adhere to these guidelines will result in the pre-proposal being returned, unreviewed.

Pre-proposals should be designed to convince the reviewer that the applicant clearly understands the problem to be studied, has devised a logical approach to the topic of significance to the species studied, and is relevant to MAF's priority areas of interest. For a full listing of these areas go to:

www.morrisanimalfoundation.org/reports/grants/our_areas_of_interest.pdf

The Foundation will, however, consider pre-proposals in other areas.

Project designs using animal models oriented toward human disease are not appropriate.

Morris Animal Foundation's (MAF) Scientific Advisory Boards will review the pre-proposals by January 2008. Applicants will receive notification by late January 2008. Invited proposals will be due by April 1, 2008. A final decision regarding funding will be made after mid-July. Because of the nature of the scoring and the volume of pre-proposals we are unable to provide prospective investigators with a critique of their pre-proposal.

Application Guidelines for First Award Grants

Due November 1, 2007

The First Award Grant offers faculty-equivalent veterinary and/or doctoral (PhD) investigators opportunities early in their career by: 1) providing research funding for their 'first' project in companion animal or wildlife research; and 2) pairing them with a 'seasoned' researcher (MENTOR) to facilitate launching a successful long-term career in advancing companion animal and wildlife health.

Funding: 2 years at \$50,000 maximum per year (personnel and supplies) plus a maximum of 8% indirect costs (maximum award \$54,000).

MAF does not pay salaries for faculty appointed to regular/tenure track, full-time, full-salaried positions (i.e. 100% of salary paid by Institution).

Qualifications of Applicant:

Applicant must be post-DVM, post-PhD and/or post-specialty boards, excluding graduate school and post-doc positions. Applicant must have a post-doctoral career appointment/faculty equivalent position (faculty member just starting out) in a university, accredited zoo, or conservation organization. Applicant must provide a letter documenting their position at their institution from their dean, department head, or equivalent.

At the time of the pre-proposal submission, applicant must **not** have been funded previously as a Principal Investigator for more than \$10,000 for any single, extramural award. Previous role as a Co-investigator is acceptable. Residents are not eligible for this award.

Requirements of the Research 'Environment' and Mentor

Mentor must have track record in companion animal and/or wildlife research and in training (preferably PhD candidates/post-doc fellows). Applications are judged on the merits of the Mentor, the merits of the applicant, the adequacy of the research environment, and the quality and scope of research proposed. The Mentor needs to demonstrate that there is going to be a strong relationship, formal and informal opportunities to

discuss research, consistent availability (particularly if not at the same location), and describe a mentoring plan.

Instructions for the Pre-Proposal Application:

Must be written by the applicant and “First Award” should be clearly indicated at the top of the pre-proposal. Attach a letter of intent, written and signed by the applicant, describing your career vision and how this award would further your goals. Attach a signed letter of endorsement from your Mentor which includes assurance of providing appropriate commitment of time to provide guidance. Also attach a letter documenting your faculty or faculty equivalent position at your institution from your dean, department head, or equivalent.

All letters must be scanned and included in electronic submission

Research topic can be basic or applied research or a combination, however; the topic must be directed towards animal health issues relevant to companion animals or wildlife species, have clear objectives, and be hypothesis driven.

Prepare remainder of pre-proposal following the Established Investigator guidelines (I-12).

Prior to funding, all studies involving live animals, including client-owned animals, must be approved by the institution’s Animal Care and Use Committee, and must meet MAF’s Health Study Guidelines (www.morrisanimalfoundation.org/PDF/HealthStudyGuidelines.pdf).

- * If you contact breed clubs for participation in your study, be aware that MAF might solicit financial support from those breed clubs to help fund the study, if approved.
- * Morris Animal Foundation shall be entitled to one-half of the net revenues of any invention resulting from an MAF-funded study.

***** Morris Animal Foundation is moving on October 11, 2007! Please note the new address*****

To submit your pre-proposal:

Mail one (1) original and two (2) copies to:

Morris Animal Foundation

Attn: Kristin Benjamin, VP, Scientific Programs & Advancement

10200 E. Girard Avenue, Suite B430

Denver, CO 80231

Email one (1) electronic copy to:

grantapplications@morrisanimalfoundation.org

Electronic copies must be in Microsoft® Word or Adobe® Acrobat (.pdf) format and be combined into **one document for submission – do not send multiple documents**. All MUST be received by November 1, 2007.